

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 4 and 6 through 17 are in the application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, are respectfully requested.

As a result of the foregoing amendment, the language "but not axially" has been deleted from claim 1.

Accordingly, the claims no longer contain subject matter which was not described in the specification as originally filed.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims in the application are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth in the last amendment and specifically because the claims set forth the compensation area as being radially yielding.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl.: Amended Claim 1 (clean copy; marked-up version);

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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By:

*FK*  
Friedrich Kueffner

Date: August 9, 2002

Clear Copy of Amended Claim 1

1 (Twice Amended) A transport disc for an opening device of a printed sheet feeder, the transport disc configured to be arranged on a first opening drum of the opening device, the transport disc comprising:

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at least one outer elastic support, wherein the outer elastic support is configured to cooperate with a securing disc of a second opening drum of the opening device to clamp an individual printed sheet between the outer elastic support and the securing disc for transporting the individual printed sheet to a transport device,

wherein the outer elastic support is a unitary rubber-elastic segment body extending in a circumferential direction of the transport disc, and

wherein the unitary rubber-elastic segment body is comprised of an outer bearing layer and a compensation area positioned radially inwardly underneath the outer bearing layer, wherein the compensation area is radially yielding and supports the outer bearing layer.

**Marked-up Version of Claim 1**

1. (Twice Amended) A transport disc for an opening device of a printed sheet feeder, the transport disc configured to be arranged on a first opening drum of the opening device, the transport disc comprising:

at least one outer elastic support, wherein the outer elastic support is configured to cooperate with a securing disc of a second opening drum of the opening device to clamp an individual printed sheet between the outer elastic support and the securing disc for transporting the individual printed sheet to a transport device,

wherein the outer elastic support is a unitary rubber-elastic segment body extending in a circumferential direction of the transport disc, and

wherein the unitary rubber-elastic segment body is comprised of an outer bearing layer and a compensation area positioned radially inwardly underneath the outer bearing layer, wherein the compensation area is radially [but not axially] yielding and supports the outer bearing layer.